



VALOR

Get clinical and administrative pharmacy experience early with the Roudebush VA's internship program for pharmacy students



**The Department of Veterans Affairs
Learning Opportunities Residency
- the VALOR program -**



Prerequisites:

- 1) Completion of P2 year with a ≥ 3.0 GPA in core pharmacy curriculum by May 2011*
- 2) Must be a U.S. Citizen
- 3) Must be able to complete a minimum of 400 hours

Information:

Experience multiple aspects of pharmacy including clinical practice, informatics, medication safety and administration. Clinical environments include primary care, internal medicine, and critical care. This internship opportunity will allow you to develop important skills that you can utilize for the rest of your pharmaceutical career.

*If applying prior to completion of P2 year, a second copy of official transcripts will be needed to ensure candidates have met the grade requirements.

Roudebush VA Medical Center
Pharmacy Department (119)
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**The deadline for application submissions to
Melanie Kuester is February 25, 2011.**

See other side for additional details

VA VALOR Program

The VALOR program is a program designed to immerse pharmacy students in a clinical environment at the VA center where they can apply the information they have already been taught, as well as further develop their clinical skills. The program begins in May and will be over a summer or during the year, depending on a student's class year (P3-summer; P4-academic year). A minimum of 400 hours at the VA facility must be completed within that time frame. Scheduling is somewhat flexible so that students' university requirements are completed as required. This experience aims to provide students with experience that cannot be achieved through positions in other areas of pharmacy practice. Participants will be evaluated on their learning experiences and will benefit from feedback on their performance. Experiences are project based and involve each of the following areas.

1) Informatics

Technology is important at the VA. The state-of-the-art technology and computerized charting system within the VA is one of the main reasons why individuals seek VA employment. The Roudebush VA medical center also uses Amerisource-Bergen's Automated technology to help with filling outpatient prescriptions and the Med Select unit dose storage system within the inpatient setting and the emergency room. The VALOR participant will be exposed to all of these various technologies as well as the DHCP and CPRS drug files.

2) Administrative

Policies and procedures are essential in any pharmacy setting and here at the Roudebush VA medical center is no different. With over 100 pharmacy employees, it is crucial to have established policies in place. This area will allow the VALOR participant to engage in the creation of new practices and to ensure policies are being met every day.

3) Clinical

With more than 7,100 inpatient and 600,000 outpatient visits annually, the need for clinical services at the Roudebush VA continues to grow. The need for medication reconciliation is also continuing to grow. As new medications and medication devices become more common, physician, nursing, and patient education on proper dosing and use is essential. The VALOR participants will also work with clinical staff to develop new methods for patient care. The VA clinics cover several different areas of care that the participant may have an opportunity to experience.

a) Ambulatory Medicine

There are six primary care clinics at the facility, with each clinic employing 1-2 clinical pharmacists and multiple specialty care clinics. Pharmacists manage patients in areas such as hypertension, lipids, diabetes, COPD, HIV and anticoagulation.

b) Inpatient Medicine

There are five internal medicine teams which employ two clinical pharmacists. The pharmacists perform activities relating to antibiotic use, renal medication dosing, and pharmacokinetics. Medication reconciliation and patient discharge counseling is also conducted in this area. Two clinical pharmacists manage the medicine and surgical intensive care units. Activities in this setting include TPN monitoring, insulin dosing, antibiotic use and dosing, pharmacokinetics, anticoagulation management, and sedation and pain management.

Eligibility:

Students must have completed at least their 2nd professional year of pharmacy school by the start of the internship, and have a GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the pharmacy curriculum. Pharmacy VALOR participants must complete 400 hours. The student must be a US citizen.

To apply:

Please send a cover letter, curriculum vitae, official copy of university transcripts, two letters of recommendation and a letter from the Dean or Assistant Dean nominating you and indicating completion (or upcoming completion) of P2 year, full time enrollment status and anticipated graduation date.

Deadline: Friday, February 25, 2011

Application Address:

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Richard L. Roudebush VA Medical Center (119)
1481 West Tenth Street
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Contact Information for Questions:

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